DSLR FRIDAY UPDATE

September 17, 2021

CDC's Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) program is a critical source of funding, guidance, and technical assistance for state, local, and territorial public health departments to strengthen their public health preparedness capabilities and improve their response readiness. The Division of State and Local Readiness (DSLR) Friday Update provides information and resources for PHEP recipients and other preparedness planners. Please share the newsletter with your colleagues.
For more information, visit the CDC State and Local Readiness website or contact us at preparedness@cdc.gov.

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PHEP Cooperative Agreement Updates

PHEP BP2 Annual Progress Report Module Now Open in PERFORMS
The PHEP Budget Period 2 (BP2) Annual Progress Report (APR) Module opened in PERFORMS on Friday, September 17. Recipients will use this module to provide status reports on their BP2 preparedness activities. This year's APR will also include supplemental questions designed to capture interim information on recipients' COVID-19 response. The nine questions in this rapid evaluation focus on how PHEP investments have helped build a foundation for responding to COVID-19. The supplemental questions are grouped into several focus areas, including preparedness domains and capabilities and working with tribes and local health departments. Recipients will also have an opportunity to provide recommendations for how the PHEP program can support large, catastrophic health emergencies in the future. In each of these areas, recipients will be asked to provide specific examples from their COVID-19 response activities. Recipients will have 60 days to complete and submit their APR data, which are due **Wednesday, November 17.**

Training sessions for recipients on APR data entry are scheduled for **1 p.m. EDT on Tuesday, September 21, and 11 a.m. EDT on Wednesday, September 22**. Information presented will be identical at each session and recipients may choose to attend one or both sessions. An additional session will be held for Pacific Island recipients at **8 p.m. EDT on Wednesday, September 22**. Project officers will send a separate meeting invitation with the call information to Pacific Island recipients.

Participant Information
Dial-In: (866) 724-5153 (Audio only)
Passcode: 75708931
Access Link: https://dslr-itt.adobeconnect.com/itt-performs/

CDC PHEP Grants Management Call to Be Held September 23
DSLR and CDC's Office of Grants Services will conduct the next bimonthly PHEP grants management conference call from **3 p.m. to 4 p.m. EDT on Thursday, September 23**. During the call, CDC will discuss grants management issues related to the PHEP and the Public Health Crisis Response cooperative agreements. Following is the participant information.

CDC Guidance on Wildfire Smoke during COVID-19 Now Available Online
CDC has updated guidance on Wildfire Smoke during COVID-19 , which includes resources on preparation for wildfire events, health effects of wildfire smoke, and reducing exposure to it. According to the guidance, cloth masks offer little protection against wildfire smoke, as these type of masks may not catch small, harmful particles in smoke that can harm your health. N95 and KN95 respirators can provide protection from wildfire smoke and from getting and spreading COVID-19. KN95 respirators are commonly made in China and are similar to N95 masks commonly used in the United States. Look for KN95 masks that meet requirements similar to those set by CDC's National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) for respirators.

CDC Provides New and Updated COVID-19 Vaccine Resources for LTC Facilities
CDC has launched new web pages to support long-term care (LTC) providers and jurisdictions as they plan for and coordinate COVID-19 vaccine access for residents and staff of LTC settings. CDC has also provided updated resources on interim infection prevention and control recommendations for healthcare professionals and nursing homes.

CDC encourages preparedness planners to share these links in their outreach to long-term care facilities in their jurisdictions.

- **NEW** COVID-19 Vaccine Access in Long-term Care Settings includes information on access to COVID-19 booster doses (if approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and recommended by CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices), as well as continued access to the primary vaccine series.
- **NEW** Long-term Care Administrators and Managers: Options for Coordinating Access to COVID-19 Vaccines. LTC providers in settings such as nursing homes, assisted living, residential care communities, group homes, and senior housing are encouraged to consider the option that works best for their residents and staff when coordinating access to COVID-19 vaccines — for both the COVID-19 primary series and booster doses.
- **NEW** How Jurisdictions Can Ensure COVID-19 Vaccine Access for Staff and Residents in Long-term Care Settings provides information specific for jurisdictions, outlining steps to ensure LTC settings have access to vaccine. CDC is encouraging LTC settings to contact their state or local jurisdictions as a first-level safety net if they need assistance connecting with a pharmacy partner.
- **UPDATED** Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Healthcare Personnel during the COVID-19 Pandemic includes updated select healthcare infection prevention and control (IPC) recommendations in response to COVID-19 vaccination, specifically source control, quarantine, and testing recommendations. This guidance applies to all U.S. settings where healthcare is delivered, including home health.
- **UPDATED** Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations to Prevent SARS-CoV-2 Spread in Nursing Homes provides updated outbreak response guidance to promote use of contact tracing approaches, expanded screening testing recommendations for healthcare personnel, and recommendations for quarantine of fully vaccinated residents and visitation guidance.

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Preparedness and Response Resources

2022 Preparedness Summit Abstracts Due October 20

The 2022 Preparedness Summit is scheduled for April 3-7 in Atlanta, and the abstract submission period is now open. The deadline for submission is **October 20**. The 2022 theme, "Reimagining Preparedness in the Era of COVID-19," will provide an opportunity to reflect on lessons learned from current and previous responses and highlight tools, resources, and learnings that can be applied into the future.

This year's Summit Planning Committee invites public health, health care, disaster relief, emergency management, and other professionals nationwide to showcase and share their research findings, best practice training models, tools, or other resources that advance the field of public health and health care preparedness and response. The committee seeks evidence-based sessions that:

- Highlight programs or model practices that have proven effective in building and sustaining public health and health care preparedness at the local, state, tribal, or national level and
- Demonstrate tools and resources that are replicable and scalable at the local, state, tribal, or national level.

More information about the event is available on the Preparedness Summit website.

News You Can Use

ASPR Announces New NOFO to Strengthen Healthcare and Public Health Preparedness, Response, and Recovery

The HHS Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) recently announced a new notice of funding opportunity (NOFO) to establish Partnership(s) for Enhanced Efforts To Strengthen the Nation's Healthcare And Public Health Preparedness, Response, And Recovery To Disasters and Other Emergencies. This NOFO seeks to fund up to seven new cooperative agreements to enable ASPR's broad collaboration with public health and health care sectors and emergency management services to ensure local governments, communities, private sector entities, nongovernmental organizations, academia, and individuals can optimally coordinate their respective national health security roles and responsibilities to achieve community health resilience and strengthen healthcare, public health, and emergency management systems in preparation of, response to, and recovery from disasters and other emergencies. **Applications must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. EDT on Wednesday, September 22.**

CDC Reports on Number of States with High Obesity Prevalence

According to new data from CDC, the number of states in which at least 35% of residents are obese has nearly doubled since 2018 – and disparities persist. Up from nine states in 2018 and 12 in 2019, the 2020 Adult Obesity Prevalence Maps show that 16 states now have an adult obesity prevalence at or above 35%: Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware (new this year), Indiana, Iowa (new this year), Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Mississippi, Ohio (new this year), Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas (new this year), and West Virginia. Adult obesity prevalence by race, ethnicity, and location is based on self-reported height and weight data from the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System.

Online Resources

CDC MMWR Reports

- Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, September 17
- *Surveillance Summaries:* Asthma Surveillance — United States, 2006–2018
- Disaggregating Data to Measure Racial Disparities in COVID-19 Outcomes and Guide Community Response — Hawaii, March 1, 2020–February 28, 2021
- Post-Acute Sequelae of SARS-CoV-2 Infection Among Adults Aged ≥18 Years — Long Beach, California, April 1–December 10, 2020
- Longitudinal Trends in Body Mass Index Before and During the COVID-19 Pandemic Among Persons Aged 2–19 Years — United States, 2018–2020
- *Notes from the Field:* Xylazine Detection and Involvement in Drug Overdose Deaths — United States, 2019
- *Notes from the Field:* Xylazine, a Veterinary Tranquilizer, Identified as an Emerging Novel Substance in Drug Overdose Deaths — Connecticut, 2019–2020
- Correction and Republication: New COVID-19 Cases and Hospitalizations Among Adults, by Vaccination Status — New York, May 3–July 25, 2021
- New COVID-19 Cases and Hospitalizations Among Adults, by Vaccination Status — New York, May 3–July 25, 2021
- QuickStats: Age-Adjusted Death Rates for Cancer, by Urban-Rural Status and Sex — National Vital Statistics System, United States, 1999–2019

COVID-19 Guidance and Resources

- **NEW** COVID-19 Vaccine Access in Long-term Care Settings
- **NEW** Long-term Care Administrators and Managers: Options for Coordinating Access to COVID-19 Vaccines
- **NEW** How Jurisdictions Can Ensure COVID-19 Vaccine Access for Staff and Residents in Long-term Care Settings
- **UPDATED** Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Healthcare Personnel During the COVID-19 Pandemic
- **UPDATED** Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations to Prevent SARS-CoV-2 Spread in Nursing Homes
- **UPDATED** Toolkit for Responding to COVID-19 Cases
- **UPDATED** COVID-19 Vaccine Equity for Racial and Ethnic Minority Groups

CDC Wants to Hear from PHEP Recipients
CDC wants to hear how PHEP jurisdictions are preparing for and responding to incidents, emergencies, and disasters, whether it's the COVID-19 pandemic, recent weather events, or other public health emergencies. Recipients can highlight their experiences in emergency preparedness, response, or recovery by emailing the State and Local Readiness mailbox at preparedness@cdc.gov.

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Center for Preparedness and Response
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention